



## **Report to the Legislature: Professional Development Expenditures FY11**

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Line-item 7061-0008

December 2012



This document was prepared by the  
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.  
Commissioner

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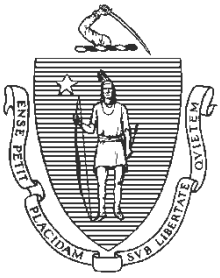
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# **Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education**

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December 2012

Dear Members of the General Court:

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education respectfully submits this "Report to the Legislature: Professional Development Expenditures" pursuant to Chapter 68 of the Acts of 2011, line-item 7061-0008, which states:

*"...that each school district shall report annually to the department of elementary and secondary education on its professional development expenditures, in a manner and form prescribed by the commissioner and consistent with the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act, P. L. 107-110; provided further, that the department of elementary and secondary education shall report annually to the house and senate committees on ways and means on school districts' professional development spending..."*

All public school districts report professional development expenditures as part of the required End of Year Financial Report in four areas: professional development leadership, teacher/instructional staff professional days, substitute salaries for teachers/instructional staff, and professional development stipends, providers, and expenses. Professional development spending increased from \$209.4 million in FY10 to \$220.0 million in FY11, which exceeds the former peak amount of \$212 million in FY03. The state average was \$238 per pupil.

Professional development provides critical support for educators in the state's efforts to reduce the achievement gap.

If you have questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

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## Introduction

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education respectfully submits this “Report to the Legislature: Professional Development Expenditures” pursuant to Chapter 68 of the Acts of 2011, line-item 7061-0008, which states:

*“...that each school district shall report annually to the department of elementary and secondary education on its professional development expenditures, in a manner and form prescribed by the commissioner and consistent with the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act, P. L. 107-110; provided further, that the department of elementary and secondary education shall report annually to the house and senate committees on ways and means on school districts' professional development spending...”*

All school districts in the Commonwealth are required to file an End of Year Financial Report (EOYFR) with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE) that details spending activity for the most recently completed fiscal year. The EOYFR data base is the source for the following analysis.

## Description of Functional Areas and Source of Funds

There are four separate subcategories in the ESE chart of accounts related to professional development. The functional areas are:

- **Professional development leadership (2351)** includes the full-time or prorated salaries of directors who spend at least 50 percent of their time engaged in leadership activities.
- **Teacher/instructional staff professional days (2353)** includes the salaries of teachers and instructional staff who participate in in-service days beyond the contractual number of days of instruction (greater than 180), where at least 50 percent of the day is devoted to professional development. This code also includes stipends for professional staff providing professional development services beyond the regular length of the school day.
- **Substitute salaries for teachers/instructional staff at professional development (2355)**
- **Professional development stipends, providers, and expenses (2357)** includes salaries for teacher trainers, full-time or prorated shares of salaries of instructional supervisors, teachers and other professional staff who spend 50 percent or more of their time providing professional development. This category includes professional staff providing training and support to new teachers, teachers being trained to implement new curriculum or instructional practices, and/or teachers targeted for training and support to remedy performance weaknesses. It also includes master and mentor teachers, curriculum

implementation coaches, and others whose job function is to provide in-district professional development.

## Professional Development Expenditures, All Funding Sources

Professional development spending increased from \$209.4 million in FY10 to \$220.0 million in FY11, an increase of 5.1 percent.

Figure 1: Professional Development Spending, FY06 to FY11

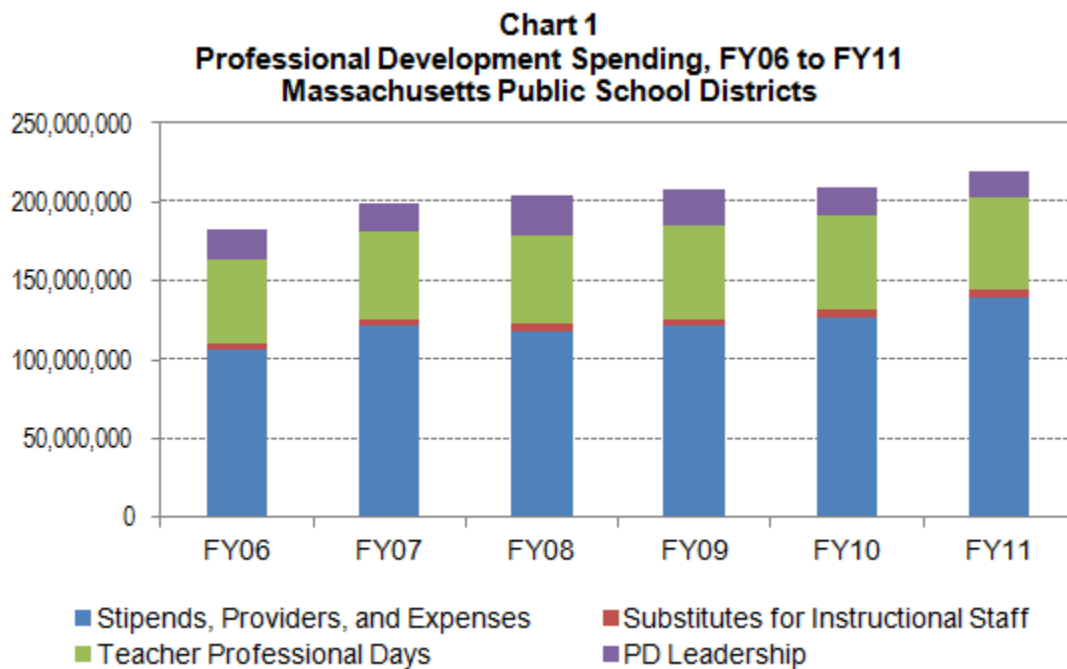


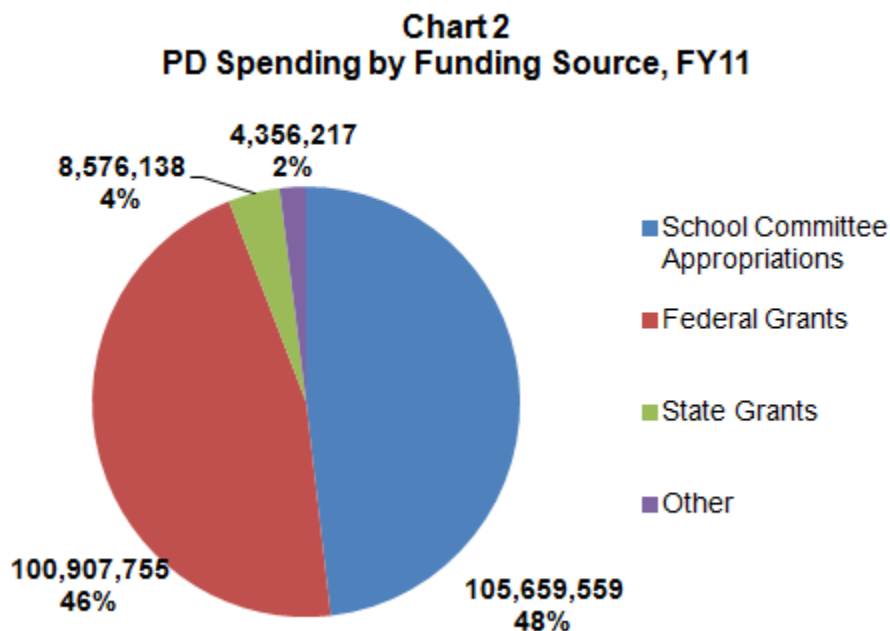
Table 1: Spending on Professional Development by Functional Area, FY06-FY11

	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
Total	182,637,194	199,440,886	203,733,226	208,220,351	209,398,378	220,018,393
Stipends, Providers, and Expenses	105,999,805	121,260,014	117,822,726	121,454,800	126,690,179	138,849,365
Substitutes for Instructional Staff	4,753,504	4,261,341	4,952,786	4,342,079	5,733,599	5,224,150
Teacher Professional Days	52,397,226	56,232,357	55,881,689	58,959,465	59,414,424	59,172,093
PD Leadership	19,486,659	17,687,174	25,076,025	23,464,007	17,560,176	16,772,785

Districts rely more heavily on grants to support professional development spending than they do for other functions. In FY11, \$109.7 million, or 50 percent of total professional expenditures

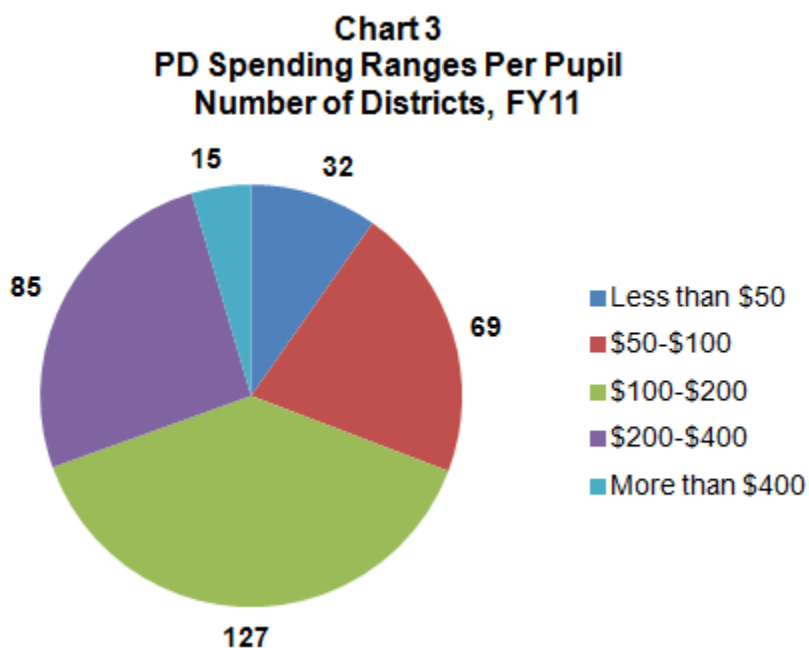
were funded by federal and state grants, compared to less than seven percent of total expenditures on all functional areas.

**Figure 2: Professional Development Spending by Funding Source, FY11**



There's a significant amount of variation in professional development spending among school districts. Fifteen school districts spent in excess of \$400 per pupil, while 32 districts spent less than \$50 per pupil. The median professional development spending per pupil was \$142.

**Figure 3: Professional Development Spending Ranges per Pupil by Number of Districts, FY11**



Detailed information on each district's expenditures in all functional areas, including professional development, can be found on the ESE school finance website at: <http://finance1.doe.mass.edu/statistics/ppx11.html>.

## **Summary**

Public school district expenditures on professional development are reported annually as part of the End of Year Report. Professional development spending is reported in four areas: professional development leadership, teacher/instructional staff professional days, substitute salaries for teachers/instructional staff, and professional development stipends, providers, and expenses. Spending increased from \$209.4 million in FY10 to \$220.0 million in FY11, exceeding the previous peak in FY03. Professional development spending per pupil varies widely among districts. The median district spent \$142 per pupil.